

BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Friday, May 17, 2024

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: IN-PERSON IN CARPINTERIA & TELECONFERENCE

Item	1A	Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions – Vice Chair, Kyle Richards
Minutes / Actions:		<p>Directors Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vianey Lopez (County of Ventura) • Matt LaVere (County of Ventura) • Das Williams (County of Santa Barbara) • Laura Capps (County of Santa Barbara) REMOTE • Kyle Richards (City of Goleta) • Eric Friedman (City of Santa Barbara) • Monica Solórzano (City of Carpinteria) • Doug Halter (City of Ventura) • Gabe Teran, (City of Oxnard) REMOTE • Steven Gama (City of Port Hueneme) <p>Directors Not Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA
Item	1B - C	<p>Approval of Administrative Items</p> <p>B. Approval of Agenda and Filing of Certificate of Agenda Posting.</p> <p>C. Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the BEACON Meeting held on March 15, 2024.</p>
Minutes / Actions:		<p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Motion to approve Administrative Agenda. Moved by Richards / Second by Williams. Unanimously approved.</p>
Item	2	Public Comment and Other Matters not on the Agenda Receive public comments.
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.
Item	3	<p>BEACON Budget Actions and Financial Reports</p> <p>Recommended Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Adopt an increase to voting member assessments (membership dues) by 3% for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 to provide an additional \$10,080 in revenue. (Exhibit I) (<i>Requires unanimous approval (10/10 vote).</i>) ii. Upon approval of member assessments, approve the Recommended Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget (Exhibit II).

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		iii. Adopt the Budget Resolution 2024-3 for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (Exhibit III).
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Executive Director Beyeler explained that the first item is approval of the dues increase. The Board has already received a report on the proposed due assessment increase for FY24-25 at the March BEACON meeting. The dues increase recommendation is a cost-of-living increase and matches that of last year, at 3%. The increase amounts to an approximate \$10,000 increase in revenue. The second item is approval of the FY2425 budget. The budget contains a reserve which is used by BEACON to leverage grant funding. In addition, the Auditor Controller's Office requires a contingency budget of at least \$60,000. How the budget will evolve in the future will be the subject of the future Financial Ad Hoc Committee's meeting. The third item is adoption of the Budget Resolution for FY 2425.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Friedman asked how grant revenue is accounted for. • Executive Director Beyeler responded that grant revenue is included in the budget revenue. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Motion to approve all items - Moved by Williams / Second by Solorzano. Unanimously approved.</p>

Item	5A	BEACON Organization and Program Board Members Reports
Minutes/ Actions:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Gama reported that he had recently returned from Alaska where he had learned about a kelp restoration project. • Director Solorzano reported that the City of Carpinteria has received \$1.62M grant from the State Coastal Conservancy for a living shoreline project. • Director Teran indicated that the City of Oxnard has planning staff joining a local coastal virtual meeting on May 27, 2024. A flyer is going out on the meeting. • Director Halter indicated that the City of Ventura had hired a consultant to look at sand management issues at Pierpont. Also, the damaged Ventura Pier is slated to reopen in June 2024. • Chair Lopez indicated that the County of Ventura is looking into SLR issues with outreach occurring at Hollywood Beach and Silver Strand Beach communities. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.

Item	5B	BEACON Organization and Program Appointment of Brian Brennan as Special Projects Advisor i. Receive a Staff Report on Special Projects Staff; and ii. Adopt Resolution 2024-2 appointing Brian Brennan as Special
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	iii. Projects Volunteer Staff for a period up to June 30, 2025 (Exhibit 1).
Minutes/ Actions:	<p>Executive Director Beyeler explained that this item was to re-appoint Brian Brennan as a Special Project Advisor. Mr. Beyeler indicated that Mr. Brennan has been with BEACON through thick and thin and he continues to assist with Mondo’s Beach Access Project and the Surfers Point Project.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Richards thanked Mr. Brennan for his services. • Chair Lopez also thanked Mr. Brennan for all he does for BEACON. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Motion to approve item - Moved by Lavere / Second by Richards. Unanimously approved.</p>

	BEACON Contracts and Agreements
Item	<p>Recommended Actions:</p> <p>Grant Project Agreements</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5C</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI) for the Southern California Cell Phone Data Project to assist BEACON in analyzing large-scale mobility data from cell phone derived-location beach information in combination with traditional on-the-ground beach use counts and surveys with a period of performance from May 21, 2024 to June 30, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$40,000 using grant funds provided by The Bay Foundation (Attachment I). ii. Approve, ratify, and authorize the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 1 to the Grant Agreement with the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) for the Coastal Resilience project to extend the term through December 31, 2024, consistent with the approved scope of work and without a change in the grant amount of \$440,800 (Attachment II). iii. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Environmental Science Associates (ESA) to provide continuous project performance physical monitoring of the Surfers Point Nature-Based Living Shoreline and Managed Retreat project with a period of performance from May 17, 2024, to December 31, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 using grant funds provided by the CA Ocean Protection Council (Attachment III). iv. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Coastal Restoration Consultants (CRC) to provide continuous project performance ecological monitoring of the Surfers Point Nature-Based Living Shoreline and Managed Retreat project with a period of performance from May 17, 2024, to December 31, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 using grant funds provided by the CA Ocean Protection Council (Attachment IV).

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	<p>v. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement with Environmental Science Associates (ESA) to assist BEACON with completing the Regional Coastal Adaptation Monitoring Plan (RCAMP) and developing the specific pilot projects without a change to the a period of performance from December 15, 2022 to December 31, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$70,000 using grant funds provided by the California Coastal Commission, in coordination with the City of Santa Barbara (Attachment V);</p> <p>vi. Approve, ratify, and authorize the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 2 to the Grant Agreement with the Ocean Protection Council (OPC) for the Santa Barbara County Debris Basin Modifications Project to extend the term through December 31, 2024, and to re-define the scope of the project without a change in the grant amount of \$539,000 (Attachment VI);</p> <p>vii. Approve and authorize the Chair to sign a Cooperative Agreement with the Santa Barbara County Flood Control District to define the roles and responsibilities for delivery of the Santa Barbara County Debris Basin Modifications Project with a period of performance ending December 31, 2024, for an amount not to exceed \$539,000 (Attachment VII).</p> <p>Annual Agreements - After approval and adoption of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget:</p> <p>viii. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Marc Beyeler/Beyeler & Associates to provide Executive Director Services to BEACON with a period of performance from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$159,640 (Attachment VIII).</p> <p>ix. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Gerald Comati/COM3 Consulting to provide Program and Project Management Services to BEACON with a period of performance from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 (Attachment IX).</p> <p>x. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Pam Baumgardner to provide Webmaster, Social Media Communication, and Information Management Services to BEACON with a period of performance from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$6,000 (Attachment X).</p> <p>xi. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Santa Barbara County for Legal Services to BEACON with a period of performance from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 (Attachment XI).</p> <p>xii. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Ventura County to provide Accounting Services to BEACON with a period of performance from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 (Attachment XII).</p> <p>xiii. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Jenna</p>
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		<p>Wisniewski to provide specialist science support services, focusing on assisting BEACON Science Advisory Committee (SAC) activities and providing Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Services, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 with a period of performance from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025 (Attachment XIII).</p> <p>xiv. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI) to provide research and technical support regarding regional sediment management and regional climate adaptation with a period of performance from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 (Attachment XIV).</p>
Minutes/ Actions:		<p>Executive Director Beyeler explained that this agenda item addresses amendments to some of the agreements that BEACON has with consultants and universities for work associated with specific grants. The item also includes all the annual agreements that BEACON support staff that includes the Executive Director, Program Manager, Legal Counsel, Auditor Controller’s Office, Public Information Specialist, Science Advisory Committee Technical Support, and a Science Specialist.</p> <p>Legal Counsel, Susan McKenzie, indicated that prior to the Board’s approval of this item, for agreement 5C viii, in accordance with Government Code Section 54953 subdivision (c)(3), the Executive Director’s salary shall be verbally summarized. The recommended action includes an increase of \$6,140 effective July 1, 2024, which results in an increase in the annual salary from \$153,500 to \$159,640. Ms. McKenzie also stated that for the record, the Santa Barbara County Counsel’s Office does not review the annual legal services contract. The last time the contract was reviewed was by the Ventura County Counsel’s Office in 2018 and the agreement has not had any substantive changes since that time.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Gama indicated that he noticed that ZOOM has an AI assistant option. This is interesting. He asked if anyone has information on how it can be used. • Chair Lopez indicated that the array of grant agreements and annual contracts are very broad and are reflective of the large region that BEACON represents and is indicative of the complex collaboration between staff, consultants, universities and Board members. She indicated that she appreciated the balance in the projects, how the projects are being delivered through these contracts, and the opportunity to work with everyone within the two counties. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. <p>Motion to approve all items. Moved by Halter / Second by Friedman. Unanimously approved.</p>

Item	6	Executive Director’s Report and Communications
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	<p>The Executive Director will report on recent activities and achievements of BEACON, upcoming events of interest to the Board of Directors and the public, and general status of BEACON major projects, including the status of recent BEACON presentations on activities and accomplishments to our member agencies. There will be no Board discussion except to ask questions or refer matters to Staff; no action will be taken unless listed on a subsequent agenda.</p>
<p>Minutes/ Actions:</p>	<p>The Executive Director reported that he wanted to cover a few items. The 4th Ventura County Sand Summit was held in May, attended by Federal, State and all local stakeholders. It had presentations from BEACON’s Science Advisory Committee Chair, Kiki Patsch, on the science of sediment, the Navy, the Port of Ventura, Santa Barbara Harbor, Channel Islands Harbor. BEACON has worked hard to secure adequate funding from the Federal obligation for the Channel Islands Dredging project. However, while the Sand Summit was very successful, and BEACON sent a letter requesting adequate funding, it has not yet secured sufficient funds. The dredging project needs \$20M to move 2.4 M CY of Sediment and has only received \$8M allocated. The Executive Director recommends a group position on this item, 2.4 M CY is an enormous amount of sediment. If the sand is not moved storms will significantly threaten the beach at Port Hueneme and the port of Hueneme. Executive Director recommends adequate science and policy to ensure and secure the funding. BEACON is working on this, and which is currently in the Federal Budget Planning period.</p> <p>Another important activity is that BEACON is not alone in its quest for regional sediment management. There are other organization up and down the coast with the same mission. BEACON has been discussions with the other organizations responsible for Regional Sediment Management in southern California, such as SANDAG for San Diego County, Orange County Parks and Recreation for Orange County, and LA County Department of Beaches and Harbors for LA County. Collectively BEACON has been discussing a Super Region Collaborative. In numbers there is strength and in June representatives from these agencies and BEACON will convene in Long Beach. The principals of this collaboration will be to secure additive Federal funding, exchange best practices, and link science of the movement of sediment.</p> <p>Related to this is that BEACON has a grant from the Coastal Conservancy to study the type of governance that BEACON should study to increase our effectiveness, and a super region collaborative is one option. BEACON is also studying how it can bring in State officials for more State funding. BEACON is looking at governess beyond its own region, because BEACON cannot do it alone. Previously, BEACON brought to the Board two legislative reports that proposed a block grant program from the State, whereby all regional sediment agencies be allocated annual funds in the amount of \$500K to \$2M. This way BEACON is not competing with the other regional agencies. This is still a good model and is being considered by our State legislators.</p> <p>BEACON has issued one major report to the website, which is a summary of the Management-Science Summit that BEACON hosted last November 2024 in Ventura. We</p>

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	<p>prepared a summary of this meeting, and I will submit to the Board members as a pdf.</p> <p>In addition, when Brian Brenna was at the helm, he got BEACON involved in the Central Coast Climate Collaborative (Four C). This group extends from Santa Cruz to Ventura County. It is an important venue for connections and collaboration.</p> <p>For the July Board Meeting, we will have our consultant, Stacey Miller, to facilitate a policy workshop to receive Board input regarding BEACON priorities moving forward. The Executive Director believes this will be very positive.</p> <p>Board Members Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Director Gama explained that he is very proud of the Sand Summit. Dr. Patsch provided an excellent presentation on sediment science. Very informative and educational.• Chair Lopez thanked Mr. Beyeler for the comprehensive report and guidance. <p>Public Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None.
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The next Board Meeting will be held on July 19, 2024, 9:00 AM, at the City of Carpinteria City Council Chambers.

Meeting Minutes by Gerald Comati, Program Manager, BEACON.